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27 February 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

25X1A

SUBJECT: Instructional Methods — Discussion with [REDACTED]

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1. I queried [REDACTED] today on what he considered the most and least effective techniques employed in the State Department Senior Seminar he is currently attending.

2. He said that he did not believe that the potential of the group is being fully exploited. Methods for tapping everyone's knowledge are not employed.

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3. [REDACTED] said that it was imperative that there be compulsory reading material. Papers and studies relevant to a speaker's topic must be read in advance if the group is to derive maximum profit from the presentation. A talk by a disarmament expert to the unprepared group had very little impact.

4. Also, he pointed out, it is important that the discussion be guided, that there be sufficient structure that exchanges have a direction to them.

5. Reporting by individuals on different aspects of a problem, followed by a synthesizing session, proved useful.

6. Study groups can also be used effectively. The State seminar did this quite well in regard to a "study for the nation" prepared by the Brookings Institution.

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[REDACTED]  
Coordinator,  
CS SENIOR SEMINAR

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